

What is claimed is:

1. A device for performing a task at a point of activity, comprising:
a frame;
a computing device connected to the frame and operably linked to a power supply;
a barcode scanner operably linked to a barcode receiver on the frame; and
a printer for printing barcodes.
2. The device of claim 1, and further including a printer for printing signs.
3. The device of claim 1, wherein the computing device is a wireless handheld computer.
4. The device of claim 1, wherein the computing device is a wireless 802.11b handheld computer.
5. The device of claim 1, further including a back plate that receives the computing device, the back plate being tiltably mounted on the frame.
6. A mobile wireless computer system for performing a task at a point of activity, comprising:
an apparatus including a wireless computing device mounted on a frame;
a wireless handheld barcode scanner which transmits wireless signals to a barcode receiver provided on the apparatus; and
a barcode printer mounted on the apparatus and operably linked to a wireless print server provided on the apparatus.
7. An apparatus for performing a task at a point of activity, comprising:
a supporting device being configured and arranged so as to be removably supported by a portion of a shopping cart;

a computing system including a computing device being removably coupled to the supporting apparatus so as to be operable by a user;

a power supply outputting a voltage compatible with the computing device, the power supply be configured so as to be removably supported by the shopping cart and being operably coupled to the computing device; and

whereby the computing device and the power supply are moveable between different locations by the user pushing, pulling or otherwise maneuvering the shopping cart.

8. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the shopping cart includes a seat portion and wherein the supporting device is configured and arranged so as to be received within and supported by the shopping cart seat portion.

9. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the shopping cart includes a cart portion and wherein the supporting device is configured and arranged so as to be received within and supported by the cart portion.

10. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein:

the computing system further includes a wireless barcode scanner and wireless barcode receiver that is operably wirelessly linked to the barcode scanner and is operably coupled to the power supply, and

the supporting device is configured and arranged so as to support the wireless barcode receiver.

11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein:

the computing system further includes a printer that is operably coupled to the computing device and to the power supply, and

the supporting device is configured and arranged so as to support the printer.

12. The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the printer is capable of printing one of barcodes or signs.

13. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the computing device is one of a wireless handheld computer or a wireless 802.11b handheld computer.

14. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the supporting device further comprises a computing device support member and wherein the computer device support member is configured and arranged so the computing device is tiltable.

15. The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the power supply is configured and arranged so as to output a voltage lying in a predetermined range for a standard AC voltage and wherein the computing device and peripherals thereof are configured so as to be powered by the standard AC voltage.

16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the power supply further includes:
a DC power source that provides a DC voltage output; and
a converter operably coupled to the DC power source for converting the DC voltage output to the AC voltage in the predetermined range.

17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the DC power source is one or more re-chargeable type of batteries.

18. An apparatus for performing a task at a point of activity in combination with a shopping cart, said apparatus comprising:

a supporting device being configured and arranged so as to be removably supported by a portion of the shopping cart;

a computing system including a computing device being removably coupled to the supporting apparatus so as to be operable by a user;

a power supply outputting a voltage compatible with the computing device, the power supply be configured so as to be removably supported by the shopping cart and being operably coupled to the computing device; and

whereby the computing device and the power supply are moveable between different locations by the user pushing, pulling or otherwise maneuvering the shopping cart.

19. A mobile wireless computing system, comprising:

a wireless computing device;

a moving device;

a power supply being configured and arranged so as to output a voltage that is compatible with an operating voltage for the computing device, for a predetermined time, where the power supply is operably coupled to the wireless computing device; and

wherein the moving device is configured and arranged so the wireless computing device and the power supply are supported by the moving device, whereby the wireless computing device and the power supply are moveable between different locations by the user pushing, pulling or otherwise maneuvering the moving device.

20. An apparatus for performing a task at a point of activity, comprising:

a supporting device being configured and arranged so as to be removably supported by a portion of a moving device;

a computing system including a computing device being removably coupled to the supporting apparatus so as to be operable by a user;

a power supply outputting a voltage compatible with the computing device, the power supply being configured so as to be removably supported by the moving device and being operably coupled to the computing device; and

whereby the computing device and the power supply are moveable between different locations by the user pushing, pulling or otherwise maneuvering the moving device.

21. The device of claim 1, further including a power supply that is removably mounted to the frame and being operably coupled to the computing device,

the power supply outputting a voltage that is compatible with an operating voltage for the computing device, for a predetermined time.

22. The device of claim 21, wherein the power supply is configured and arranged so an AC voltage is outputted, which AC voltage is in a predetermined range for a standard AC voltage and wherein the computing device and peripherals thereof are configured so as to be powered by the standard AC voltage.

23. The device of claim 22, wherein the power supply further includes:
a DC power source that provides a DC voltage output; and
a converter operably coupled to the DC power source for converting the DC voltage output to the outputted AC voltage in the predetermined range.

24. The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the DC power source is one or more re-chargeable type of batteries.